

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00  
DODE-00 /034 W

-----033977 100444Z /21

R 091800Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3659  
INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 0923

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, NS

SUBJ: CANDIDATE LISTS REGISTERED FOR PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

1. CANDIDATE LISTS FOR POLITICAL PARTIES WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE OCTOBER 31 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS WERE REGISTERED AS SCHEDULED SEPTEMBER 8. MAJOR CONTESTS WILL BE BETWEEN THE PRESENTLY-GOVERNING NATIONAL PARTY COMBINATION (NPK), UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PRIME MINISTER HENCK ARRON, AND THE OPPOSITION UNITED DEMOCRATIC PARTIES (VDP), HEADED BY PARLIAMENTARY VETERAN AND VHP (PROGRESSIVE REFORM PARTY) LEADER JAGGERNATH LACHMON.

2. THE NPK ENTERS THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN COMPRISED OF ARRON'S NPS (SURINAM NATIONAL PARTY), THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PSV, THE JAVANESE-BASED KTPI, AND A HINDUSTANI-DOMINATED HPP, WHOSE MOST ARTICULATE SPOKESMAN IS MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT GEORGE HINDORIE. BESIDES LACHMON'S VHP, THE NEWLY-FORMED VDP ALSO COMBINES A JAVANESE PARTY CALLED THE PENDAWA LIMA, TWO BUSH NEGRO PARTIES, THE PROGRESSIVE SOCIALIST PARTY (PSP)  
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AND THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP).

3. THE NATIONALISTIC REPUBLICAN PARTY (PNR) OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MINISTER EDWARD BRUMA, WHICH WAS RECENTLY SUMMARILY DISMISSED FROM THE NPK, HAS REGISTERED ITS OWN CANDIDATES FOR THE NATIONAL PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION LIST AND IN ALL BUT ONE

OF THE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS (ONLY THE NPK HAS REGISTERED IN ALL TEN ELECTORAL DISTRICTS). SEVERAL OTHER SMALLER PARTIES INCLUDING THE PRO-SOVIET PEOPLES PARTY LED BY RUBEN LIE PAW SAM, THE THIRD BLOCK HEADED BY HUMPHREY KEERVELD (CHAIRMAN OF THE MAOIST DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S FRONT AND COMMUNIST PARTY OF SURINAM), AND PALU (UNION OF PROGRESSIVE LABORERS AND FARMERS)--WHICH APPEARS TO BE COOPERATING WITH THE VDP IN AT LEAST ONE DISTRICT--HAVE ALSO SUBMITTED CANDIDATE LISTS.

4. PRIME MINISTER ARRON WILL BE OUT OF THE COUNTRY SEPTEMBER 11-18 IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN PRESIDENT FERRIER'S STATE VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 14-17, BUT THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE 39 SEATS IN SURINAM'S FIRST PARLIAMENT TO BE ELECTED SINCE INDEPENDENCE WILL BEGIN IN EARNEST SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN. AT THIS STAGE, THE EFFECTS OF THE EXPULSION OF THE PNR FROM THE NPK AND ITS REPLACEMENT BY THE HPP, THE CONVICTION OF FORMER AGRICULTURE MINISTER SOEMITA LAST WEEK, AND THE POSSIBLE STRENGTH OF THE SPLINTER GROUPS AND MINOR PARTIES CONTESTING THE ELECTION REMAIN UNKNOWN QUANTITIES WHICH WILL BEGIN TO SORT THEMSELVES OUT AS THE CAMPAIGN GETS UNDER WAY AND PROGRESSES.

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## Message Attributes

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